

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13 and 14 are pending in the application.

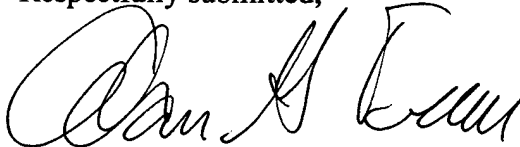
Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly recite that the alkane substrate comprises either butane as the most prevalent compound or propane as the most prevalent compound on a weight percentage basis. Basis for the amended claim language is provided in the specification, for example, at page 5, paragraph [0034] and original Claims 3 and 5. Since this amendment merely modifies the language of Claim 1 to more clearly recite features recited in Claims 3 and 5 and previously considered by the Examiner, no issue of new matter is presented, and the amendment does not raise new issues. Therefore, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being unclear. By the present Amendment, Claim 1 clearly recites that the alkane substrate comprises either butane or propane as the most prevalent compound. This amendment does not change the scope of the claims, but merely recites in explicit terms the features which were previously included in the claim.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that Claims 1-3 and 5-11, 13 and 14 meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in connection with this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (412) 263-4340 to discuss such matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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